

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/510,724
Reply to Office Action dated August 16, 2005

PATENT
450100-04947

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-6 are pending in this application. Claim 1 is independent. Claims 1-6 are hereby amended and, therefore, overcome the claim objections and the 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph rejections. No new matter is added by these amendments. Support for the amended recitations in the claims is found throughout the Specification, specifically at pages 33-35. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-6 are rejected allegedly under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,184,282 to Kaneda et al. (hereinafter, merely "Kaneda").

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

"An IC card adapter device...

a first insertion direction indication portion provided on the upper surface of the casing of the adapter device to conform insertion direction into the insertion portion of the host equipment; and

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a second insertion direction indication portion or an insertion attitude indication portion provide at the bottom surface of the casing of the adapter device to prevent erroneous insertion of the IC card.” (emphasis added)

As understood by Applicants, Kaneda relates to an IC card adapter for use in selectively adding to an electronic device such as electronic computers or electronic printers. An IC card adapter is provided in order for removal incorporation, in an electronic device such as computers, word processors or printers, of at least one IC card having its own program to thereby make it possible to operate the electronic device on a basis of the program which is not included originally in the electronic device.

Applicants submit that Kaneda does not teach or suggest the above-identified features of claim 1. Specifically, Applicants submit Kaneda does not teach or suggest a first insertion direction indication portion provided on the upper surface of the casing of the adapter device to conform insertion direction into the insertion portion of the host equipment and a second insertion direction indication portion or an insertion attitude indication portion provide at the bottom surface of the casing of the adapter device to prevent erroneous insertion of the IC card, as recited in claim 1.

Therefore, Applicants submit that claim 1 is patentable.

III. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims are dependent from one of the independent claims, discussed above, and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully requests early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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